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October 31, 2003

Facsimile no. 703-746-9195

Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections

Re:

END-910—New U.S. Patent Application

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HAVING ARTICULATION JOINT

SUPPORT PLATES FOR SUPPORTING A FIRING BAR

FBT Docket: 0021680-0511041

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/615,971

Filing Date: July 9, 2003

Applicant: Kenneth S. Wales, et al.

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please correct the second inventor's name in the above-referenced application to read "Joseph Charles Hueil" and issue a corrected filing receipt reflecting that correction.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Very truly yours,

FROST BROWN TODD LLC

DEF/eam

cc:

Dean L. Garner, Esq. Ms. Kimberly M. Moses

U.S. Docket Clerk P.O. Box 1222 Johnson & Johnson Law Department New Brunswick, NJ 08903

CinLibrary/1340528.1

Page 1 of 2



United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office. Address COMMISSIONER FOR FATENTS PO. Box 1-30 Alausable, Vigada 22313-1430

FILING OR 371 TOT CLMS IND CLMS ATTY, DOCKET NO DRAWINGS FIL FEE REC'D APPL NO. ART UNIT (c) DATE 3 21 768 END910.0511041 18 10/615,971 07/09/2003 3721

CONFIRMATION NO. 1289

FROST BROWN TODD LLC 2200 PNC Center 201 E. Fifth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202-4182 OCT -8 2003

FILING RECEIPT
OC00000010977207

Date Mailed: 10/03/2003

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filling Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filling Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filling Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filling Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Kenneth S. Wales, Mason, OH; Joseph Charles Heuil, Loveland, OH; Hueil

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 10/02/2003

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Missing Parts

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Surgical stapling instrument having articulation joint support plates for supporting a firing bar

Preliminary Class

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